

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A vascular prosthesis for implantation in a body vessel having a vessel wall, the vascular prosthesis comprising:

a proximal section comprising a plurality of helical turns ~~and a distal end;~~

a distal section joined to [[the]] a distal end of the proximal section, the distal section forming a self-expanding anchor; and

a torsional stabilizer coupled to the distal end of the proximal section such that it extends beyond a junction between the proximal section and the distal section.

2. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the proximal section, distal section and torsional stabilizer each are capable of assuming a contracted state suitable for transluminal insertion into the body vessel and a deployed state wherein the proximal section, distal section and torsional stabilizer engage the vessel wall.

3. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the distal section is configured to be deployed within the body vessel before the proximal section and torsional stabilizer are deployed.

4. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the torsional stabilizer is configured to be deployed before the proximal section is deployed, but after the distal section is deployed.

5. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 2, wherein the distal section is configured to engage the vessel wall to retain the vascular prosthesis in position during deployment of the torsional stabilizer and proximal section.

6. (Currently Amended) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer is configured to enhance frictional engagement with the vessel wall.

7. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer comprises a loop.

8. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer comprises a continuation of the proximal section.

9. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer is configured to partially overlap the distal section.

10. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein, in a fully deployed configuration, the torsional stabilizer and the distal section are oriented substantially parallel to one another.

11. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer is biased outwardly to provide increased frictional contact with the vessel wall.

12. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the proximal section, distal section and torsional stabilizer comprise a nickel titanium alloy.

13. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the proximal and distal sections may be manufactured as two distinct sections, then coupled together.

14. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising at least one through-hole disposed on a solid portion of the torsional stabilizer, the through-hole configured to contain a therapeutic agent.

15. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 1, wherein the torsional stabilizer is used to orient the prosthesis axially within the body vessel.

16. (Currently Amended) A vascular prosthesis for implantation in a body vessel having a vessel wall, the vascular prosthesis including a longitudinal axis, the vascular prosthesis comprising:

a proximal section comprising a plurality of helical turns ~~and a distal end;~~

a self-expanding distal section coupled to [[the]] a distal end of the helical body at a junction;

and a torsional stabilizer coupled to the distal end of the proximal section and extending beyond a plane defined by the longitudinal axis and the junction.

17. (Cancelled) ~~The vascular prosthesis of claim 16, wherein the junction defines an origin of an X-Y~~

~~coordinate system, wherein an X-axis is substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of vascular prosthesis and a Y-axis is substantially orthogonal to the longitudinal axis of vascular prosthesis.~~

18. (Cancelled) ~~The vascular prosthesis of claim 16, wherein the torsional stabilizer extends past a plane of the X-axis.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The vascular prosthesis of claim 16, wherein the torsional stabilizer extends longitudinally past a plane through the junction and substantially orthogonal to the longitudinal axis of the Y-axis.

20. (Original) The vascular prosthesis of claim 16, wherein the torsional stabilizer includes one or more radiopaque markers to facilitate alignment of the vascular prosthesis at a desired radial orientation within the vessel.